

MINUTES OF HAMILTON COUNTY COUNCIL, DECEMBER 5, 2001, 7:00 P.M.

GENERALIZED SUMMARY

VERBATIM DISCUSSION ON TAPE ON FILE IN AUDITOR'S OFFICE

The Hamilton County Council held a work session at 5:30 p.m. in the ISS Training Room for a hands on demonstration of the County Web Page. Those attending this work session were Judy Levine, Christine Altman, Brad Beaver, John Hiatt, Meredith Carter.

President McKinney called the meeting to order. Auditor Mills called the roll: Brad Beaver, John Hiatt, Christine Altman, Rick McKinney, Judy Levine, Meredith Carter. Jim Belden was not in attendance. Auditor Mills declared a quorum.

Everyone stood for the invocation by Councilor Hiatt and remained standing for the pledge of allegiance.

Councilor Beaver moved to approve the minutes of November 7th, 2001. Councilor Levine seconded motion. Motion carried (6-0).

Councilor Beaver moved to approve the minutes of November 26, 2001 meeting with the Hamilton County Convention & Visitor's Bureau as amended. Councilor Levine seconded motion. Motion carried (6-0).

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Dick Frost

@      Commentary on Conflict of Interest Forms

@      Veterans Burial Benefits

Sharon Clark/ Solid Waste Board

@      Requesting consideration of the Council to fund the county's portion of the Household Hazardous Waste operating budget for 2002.

Sharon Clark - You are well aware that we spent over \$100,000 retrofitting the Highway garage to be ready for household hazardous waste in January. I'm here tonight to tell you that I agree with your decision, you requested that we simply add a half cent to the county tax rate and make this service available to everybody in the county. I agree with you, I have tried to lobby three more votes on the Solid Waste Board but we didn't have much time. I promise I will start that immediately again because I think that's the way to fund this operation. In the meantime, what you see before you shows that we have a third of the citizens in this county who live outside jurisdictional lines of cities and towns. Those are the people who will be unable to utilize our facility. I understand you've asked us to get everyone on board. We only have so much influence with the elected officials of those towns and cities. However, what I've done tonight is bring a map and what I will ask our employee out there to do is ask citizens where they live and if they live anywhere other than inside a yellow line which shows the cities and towns, you will see that they won't be allowed to participate in the facility if they live in Fishers for instance. Sheridan is participating as is Westfield and Noblesville and of course Carmel has their own facility. In that way maybe they then can go back to their own elected officials and request that they participate for next year. We don't know exactly how much it's going to be yet because we've not heard about the grant we've applied for. If we do not get the grant, Hamilton County's share would be a little over \$40,000, \$40,106. I'm here to plead with you to participate, resolve tonight that you will appropriate that money in January.

Councilor Beaver- Sharon, You are fully aware that we voted on this issue twice and voted it down. Are you sharing any new information that we did not have at our previous votes?

Sharon- I don't think you had the number of people, 55,000 residents will not be able to participate, that's

a third of the people of the county that are our direct responsibility. Now I have to switch from Solid Waste to Commissioner to say that Brad. Councilor Beaver- I will make a suggestion here in a couple minutes but let me point out to you that we have went to the county coffers for well over a \$100,000 doesn't that more than pay our share. Sharon Clark- It is a county operation, it is appropriate for us to make the facility available. Councilor Beaver - And we have. Sharon Clark - I appreciate that. Councilor Beaver - But we need to go again. Sharon Clark - We need to participate in the operational cost. Councilor Hiatt - If we could do this it would only be for one year. Sharon Clark - I would not want you to do it any other way. You will make yourselves abundantly clear to everyone in the county on your position. I'm asking only that you fund it for one year and make that part of your motion. Councilor Levine - If any county funds are expended on this, it's for everyone in the county and Carmel Clay should get their money back. You're going to go back in January and maybe we'll change who we appoint to the Solid Waste Board so you will have your votes. The State created the Solid Waste Board so that you could appropriately do this and fund it. What's this money you're asking for to be used for? Is it for an employee, electricity? Sharon Clark - It's for the operational cost Judy that includes staff. Councilor Levine - You've sat in this seat, we need to see that line by line what is this going for. Nobody's going to write you a blank check. You can't exclude anybody in this county if I vote for this because you're not going to blackmail Fisher's into participating. I think everyone should pay this tax, Carmel should get it back and then everyone can use the facility. Sharon Clark - I agree totally. Councilor Beaver - Where would Carmel get money back. Councilor Levine - Everyone would pay the half cent. Councilor Beaver - They've already refused to implement the tax so that monies off the table. That's why they're here. Councilor Altman - If Solid Waste would implement the county wide tax we could treat it identically with the paramedic program that we did before. Councilor Beaver - If we've changed the discussion and they implement the tax I will vote for that. Councilor McKinney - We've had this information before, Jim or Barry gave us those numbers. Most of the money goes to pay the recycling companies to accept this material. Sharon Clark - I didn't get to finish but that is definitely part of it. It is disposal of the hazardous waste. Councilor Altman - Well that was only \$54,000 of that whole budget. The major cost, to be honest with everyone is personnel. The county has contributed over \$100,000 plus the actual facility. If we put a load with our residents on that facility I think we should at most pay our fractional share of the disposal cost. We have come to the plate, we've put money into the coffers. Solid Waste Board has taken their position and sometimes you just have to dig in your heels to make people do the reasonable thing and I don't think they did the reasonable thing in applying a flat tax over the entire county, everyone participates, we don't waste the employees time using maps saying who can participate. Sharon Clark - I fully appreciate. Councilor Altman - And I'm not arguing with you, I know you pushed that position. Sharon Clark - You know where I'm coming from. Councilor Beaver - We do and I don't want to be argumentative with you. I know you have tried to convince the Solid Waste Board members. Let me make this suggestion to the other council members. Barry did come and show us some vague operating numbers then we heard rumors that there were interlocal agreements but we've never seen these agreements, why don't we have Jim look into this for us. We want copies of the interlocal agreement, what the operating budget is, what we've already paid in? If we're going to have an employee, how much? Who's employee is this going to be? Is this another county employee? Is that the general idea? I'm not in favor of any of this unless, we'd give them \$50,000 out of the County General Fund and there was a guarantee that it would never go over or above \$50,000 and if it did they would implement their own tax. I suggested this to one of the Solid Waste Board members that if they would guarantee that this wasn't going to be a black hole of County General Fund and then if it ever went over a certain amount of money they would implement their own tax. They won't make those guarantees, the only guarantee they will make is give us some money. We don't know what the operating cost are going to be, we don't know if we're getting a grant, just give us the money. Councilor Levine - We don't want to hire two more county employees for the Solid Waste Board because there are departments out there that need personnel that we're denying right now. We are in a tenuous fiscal situation because the State is broke and I don't want to tie anything to income tax that's not already being funded by income tax. We're going through tax restructuring, reassessment that may be challenged. Councilor Meredith- We gave them money to do the remodeling of the building out there, If we don't give them operating money what are we going to do just let the building sit there? Councilor Altman - They have several options and I think they need to explore the several options. Maybe they can cut back the hours and make it available Saturday only. There are a multitude of options. All we have seen is one view of how this should operate. If you don't have the money, people need to start being creative in government to make it work. Councilor Beaver - Who do you have on board? You've got

Noblesville, Sheridan & Westfield and they're willing to front their money. So they've got x amount of operating money, maybe Christine's correct and you go on a part time basis instead of full time. Whose employee are they? These questions have not been answered. Councilor Carter - Well we did too, we answered that questions early on. If this goes into business they will be Solid Waste employees. We said that. Councilor Beaver - No, we did but did the Solid Waste Board answer that question. Councilor Carter - I don't want to get stuck with a building out there that we're not using and if we have to do some quick start, I'm willing to do a little bit. Councilor Altman - Let's come up with some scenarios, figure out what works and go from there. Small steps to get a program going, I don't think anyone disagrees that this isn't a good program. Let's just figure out how to do it within our statutory constraints. Councilor Beaver - Whose job is it to come up with it though? Councilor Altman - It's the Solid Waste Board. I want to see several options on level of service. Councilor McKinney - What Sharon's presented to us is that they plan to open their doors January 1 but one third of the county will not be eligible to go there.

Sharon Clark - And half of the people I represent, 45% of the people of Clay Township live outside the city limits. Councilor Altman - Again I feel the county is a participant in this program given that we up fronted \$100,000 for the facility. Sharon Clark - I think you did that on good faith. I think we were attempting to move forward together and I admit the Solid Waste Board has not done it's part as far as I'm concerned but I just came. I've heard all your comments and I will take those back to the Solid Waste Board. I did tell them at the last meeting because the building is almost ready that I would make one final plea to get you to consider making an appropriation in January. That's why I was here and that's all I'm going to say. Councilor McKinney - I want to clarify, Are you saying the Board has said that they would instruct people be denied using the facility. Sharon Clark - Absolutely, We have no choice. Councilor Altman - County people would be denied or the non participating municipalities? Sharon Clark - Something that hasn't been determined specifically because we we're hoping positively that everyone would participate and we would never have to adopt that kind of position but at this point and time if you are not participating then you do not bring your hazardous waste to this facility. Councilor Levine - We have given you \$100,000, the County is participating. Councilor Altman - Right now we're the biggest participant. Councilor Levine - Everybody in this county pays county taxes and nobody should be denied an opportunity to drop their old paint cans off on Saturday morning. I think that would be ridiculous. Auditor Mills - But they're looking at that as you give them the capital cost and if you're not participating in the operations, then myself, as a White River resident, will not be able to use that facility. Councilor Beaver - I understand that and I disagree with Meredith on the idea of the building. The Highway didn't get out of their office for two days before emergency management moved in and I am unconcerned about the reuse of that building out there. If you have a building that's indoors and heated and it doesn't go to Solid Waste it will go to good use. The plan we've seen in the past we've denied twice and if we vote again I will deny it again. If you come up with a new plan or some kind of future resolutions as to it won't go over "x" amount, we need to have those in written form. Councilor Altman- Let's find out if we've got a grant or not. I am amazed you would even consider opening until you know what your revenues are. Councilor McKinney - Or hire a service or contractor to do it rather than our employee. Councilor Beaver - Who has the interlocals with all the towns? Auditor Mills - The Auditor.

@ Councilor Beaver - Instructed Jim Vaughn to get all the information the Council has received that is written so when we receive another plan we know what was turned down the first time.

Sharon Clark - In other words what you're asking, When we find out on December 15th whether or not we'll have the grant then you want some hard cold numbers. I will not support a position that says we will not go over a certain amount of county general money. I think that is the same situation you are in now. What I want is a half cent tax rate so the Solid Waste Board is self served. Councilor Beaver - We're responsible for the county budget as you well know. If you say we need \$50,000 - \$60,000 for this particular project and we come up with \$50,000 then we can go along with that. I feel like we're going down a path where we don't know what the final number is. Sharon Clark - I'm glad I came tonight. I think I've had the opportunity to communicate with you which I had not had before. I have marching orders as far as the Solid Waste Board goes and I will go back and share this with them. I have three things: 1. Level of Service, 2. Interlocal Agreements; 3. Actual Budget. Councilor Hiatt - Who did we finally decide would hire this employee? Councilor Levine - We do not have room right now for more employees.

Councilor Beaver - Are you hearing that also? Auditor Mills - That needs to be discussed, it's my understanding the Solid Waste Board would have to have their own Federal ID Number, write their own checks etc. Councilor Hiatt - I'm hearing up here that they want this employee to be a Solid Waste employee. Councilor Altman - Either that or you go a reduced level of service, contracted out the first year. There are a lot of options out there that I think people need to explore and take some of the level off the Auditor's office and County's back if you're going to have a reduced level of service which I'm hearing very strongly is probably going to be funded, and have a contract personnel come in one or two times a week. Councilor Beaver - As a Solid Waste member, If we would of given you the money you asked for tonight, January of next year, whose employee would that of been? Sharon Clark - I thought the employee would be employed and contracted with the Solid Waste Board. Councilor Beaver - That's what you envisioned? Sharon Clark - That's how I thought it would operate. We would be in charge of that employee and operation and that's why of course I wanted it funded with it's own private tax rate. Councilor Beaver - Would you double check on that? Councilor Hiatt - The reason I brought that up is because Barry's been doing a lot of the work and he's part of the county program. Councilor Altman - The other option is if Noblesville can share an employee we contract the Solid Waste Board contracts with the City of Noblesville. Councilor Beaver - You expect to have this discussion at the next Solid Waste Board meeting. Sharon Clark - Actually I won't be at the next meeting so it will be January.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### President

Councilor McKinney updated the Council on the following:

- @ Thanked Highway for the new bridge on Ditch Road between 131st Street & 136th Street.
- @ Thanked fellow Councilors for allowing him to be President this year.

### Vice President

Councilor Levine reported on the following:

- @ Congratulated the Health Department for their efforts in notifying residents on the availability of the flu shot vaccines.
- @ Soil & Water Conservation District is to be congratulated on their efforts for 2001.
- @ All Council has been invited to the Soil & Water Annual Dinner on December 20, 2001 at Lutz's Steakhouse from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

### Highway Committee:

Councilor Beaver:

- @ Discussed bond summary and progress on 146th Street.

Councilor Altman:

- @ Public Hearing and brief review will be held for SR 431 at 6:30 p.m. on December 6, 2001 at Clay Junior High.

Councilor McKinney:

- @ Four lanes of Springmill will be open this Friday to US 31 and stoplights operational at the intersections of Oak Ridge Road and Springmill and 146th Street.

Councilor Carter:

@ He and Councilor McKinney attended a public hearing on 106th Street & College Avenue on November 26, 2001. Several people in attendance and consensus of that meeting was people didn't want what had been designed.

#### Finance

Councilor Altman moved to approve the 2002 contract for Mike Reuter. Councilor Levine seconded motion. Motion carried (6-0).

#### GIS

Larry Stout reported on the following:

@ We have received the first base map update delivery from Woolpert. This delivery covers the western 2½ miles of the county. This area is in QC.

@ We provided aerial photos and other map data to the Parson Transportation Group for use in their study of the U.S. 31 corridor in Clay Township.

@ Roger Koelpin, State GIS Coordinator, Dave Mockert, Indianapolis GIS Administrator, and I met with Jon Laramore and Kurt Barrow of the State Board of Tax Commissioners on October 30 to show them how with GIS they can accomplish their goals without requiring counties to change their parcel numbering systems.

#### Personnel Committee:

Meredith Carter:

@ Committee met November 19, 2001. Discussed Reassessment Budget and the need to move personnel expenses to County General Fund in 2003.

@ New position request in Planning Department.

@ Sonia Leerkamp was referred back to Board of Commissioners.

@ Mary Clark & Sally Wilson requesting new positions. Committee suggested job sharing with part time help and not full time.

#### Miscellaneous

Councilor Beaver:

@ Requested 6:30 p.m. Executive Session on January 9, 2002.

@ Requested Mr. Vaughn be added to agenda under Committee Reports.

@ Councilor Beaver recently participated in visiting teachers day at Noblesville High School and was requested to submit two people to participate next year.

Mr. Jim Vaughn

@ Presented letter of introduction for approval of council that will be sent to all Elected Officials and Department Heads.

#### ADDITIONAL, TRANSFER, REDUCTIONS, AND AMEND FORM 144

Councilor Altman moved to amend 2002 County Assessor 144 line item 101.001.000.1005 Inheritance

Tax Deputy to \$27,385 and line item 101.001.000.1009 Staff Appraiser to \$33,260. Councilor Beaver seconded motion. Motion carried (6-0).

Councilor Beaver moved to approve \$1,000 transfer from Auditor line item 101.003.000.3603 Seminars & Training to 101.003.000.2001 Office Supplies. Councilor Hiatt seconded motion. Motion carried (6-0).

Councilor Hiatt moved to approve additional request of \$1,610 in Auditor line item 101.003.000.1009 Tax Mapping Deputy. Councilor Levine seconded motion. Motion carried (6-0).

Councilor Beaver moved to approve \$6,000 transfer from Commissioners line item 101.011.000.4008 Vehicles to 101.011.000.2001 Office Supplies \$5,000 and 101.011.000.3502 Legal Notices \$1,000. Councilor McKinney seconded motion. Motion carried (6-0).

Fred Swift:

@ Updated Council on the reception of Initial Security.

Councilor Beaver moved that no additional appropriation request for security come before the Council until the request has been to the Security Committee unless there is an emergency. Councilor Altman seconded motion. Motion carried (6-0).

Councilor Beaver moved to amend 2002 Planning 144 line item 101.001.000.1006 Permit Coordinator/Plan Reviewer to \$28,530. Councilor Levine seconded motion. Motion carried. (5-0) with Councilor Altman abstaining.

Councilor Beaver moved to approve \$76,000 transfer from Commissioners line items 101.011.000.3816 Spay/Neuter \$34,000; 101.011.000.3890 Interest \$11,000; and 101.011.000.3713 Contractual \$31,000 to 101.011.000.1401 Social Security \$76,000. Councilor Hiatt seconded motion. Motion carried (6-0).

Councilor Altman moved to approve \$1,000 transfer from Superior Court 1 line item 101.039.000.3721 Investigative Services to 101.039.000.4012 Law Books. Councilor Levine seconded motion. Motion carried (6-0).

Councilor Beaver moved to approve \$97.20 transfer from Veteran Services line item 101.049.000.3603 Seminars/Training to 101.049.000.2001 Office Supplies. Councilor Levine seconded motion. Motion carried (6-0).

Councilor Altman moved to amend 2002 Noblesville Township Assessor 144 line items 101.059.000.1006 Field Appraiser to \$41,172 and 101.059.000.1007 Construction Coordinator to \$34,514. Councilor Beaver seconded. Motion carried (6-0).

Councilor Beaver moved to approve \$113 transfer from Washington Township Assessor line item 101.060.000.2001 Supplies to 101.060.000.3603 Training. Councilor Hiatt seconded motion. Motion carried (6-0).

Councilor Beaver moved to approve \$15,000 transfer from Motor Vehicle Highway line item 102.000.000.1300 Part time to 102.000.000.1401 Social Security. Councilor Hiatt seconded motion. Motion carried (6-0).

Councilor Beaver moved to approve \$4,000 transfer from Health Department line item 105.000.000.1005 Mark Longfellow to 105.000.000.1401 Social Security. Councilor Hiatt seconded motion. Motion carried (6-0).

Councilor Hiatt moved to approve \$2,600 transfer from Health Department line item 105.000.000.1014 Jackie Waggoner to 105.000.000.1300 Part Time. Councilor Levine seconded motion. Motion carried (6-0).

Councilor Hiatt moved to approve \$16,532.47 transfer from Parks Department line items

106.000.000.1305 Lifeguards \$8,532.47 and 106.000.000.1306 Concessions \$8,000 to 106.000.000.1302 Laborers. Councilor Levine seconded motion. Motion carried (5-0) with Councilor Beaver abstaining.

Councilor Altman moved to amend 2002 Reassessment 144 line item 109.000.000.1001 Dara Waterman to \$34,841 and 109.000.000.1002 Kim Powell to \$38,669. Councilor Beaver seconded motion. Motion carried. (6-0).

Councilor Levine moved to approve the following Board Appointments. Councilor Beaver seconded motion. Motion carried (6-0).

Alcoholic Beverage Board		
Carol Carley		
North BZA Board		Gerald
Kirby		
South BZA Board		
Leann Burrow		
County Plan Commission		Brad Beaver
Cicero Economic Development Board	Jack Denison	
Fishers Economic Development Board	Brian D. Myers	
Hamilton County Economic Development Board	Bob Bill	
4-H Council Board Member		John Hiatt
Hamilton County Alliance		Christine
Altman		
Property Tax Assessment Board of Appeals	Charles Kimmel	
Property Tax Assessment Board of Appeals	James Durr	
Hoosier Heritage Port Authority	Dwight Crowmer	
E911 Board Appointment		John Hiatt

Councilor Beaver moved to approve the following 2002 Council Meeting dates. Councilor Hiatt seconded motion. Motion carried (6-0)

January 9th	February 6th
March 6th	
April 10th	1st
May 5th	
June 5th	
July 3rd	August 7th
September 4th	
October 2nd	November 6th
December 4th	

August 19, 20, 21, 22 Budget Hearings

September 4th Budget Public Hearing

September 18th Budget Final Adoption

Miscellaneous Announcements

Councilor Levine:

@ Attorney General communique regarding E911 use of funds for equipment.

The meeting was duly adjourned.

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President  
Auditor

Those present:

Kate Lewis, Daily Ledger  
Taxpayer

Dick Frost,

Larry Stout, GIS Manager  
Manager

BJ Casali, ISS

Sharon Clark, County Commissioner

Debbie Folkerts, Assessor

Polly Pearce, Court Administrator

Chuck Kiphart, Planning

Mike Reuter, Financial Consultant